

CONDEMNATION OF PRESIDENT WILSON
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selves in the future to coerce Germany if it
acts, say toward
Switzerland, or Holland or Denmark, as it has
acted toward
Belgium. Either such a promise is an empty
nullity or it
means that we undertake to prepare in such
event to send
an army of a couple of million men to Europe.
Yet these
same individuals praise Wilson for shirking his
duty under
the moderate Hague Conventions we have
already signed
and for failure to prepare either to protect our
own citizens
when murdered on the high seas or to protect
them when
murdered in Mexico. They won't advocate
preparedness
for defensive war in our own behalf but are
willing to make
utterly reckless promises that we will
undertake offensive
war in behalf of others."

Writing to Julian Street, on July 8, 1915, he
said:
"It is difficult to explore the hidden domain of
motive.
Personally, I do not believe that President
Wilson's mo-
tives have been one whit better than those of
Senator Hale
(life-long opponent to a large navy). This is a
mere matter
of belief on my part; but it is a matter not of
belief but of
knowledge that Wilson in his very great
position has done
far more damage to the army and navy and
has been a far
greater foe to efficient preparedness than
Hale was in his
smaller position. I would not attack either
unless it were
necessary from, the standpoint of the country;
and it is of
course a thousand times more necessary
(although more
disagreeable) to attack Wilson, the popular
pacifist hero,
than Hale, who is really dead. The excuse that

can be made
for one is the excuse that can be made for the
other. Hale's
constituents demanded, most of them
doubtless sincerely,
that he should see that the Portsmouth Navy
Yard was
kept up. Wilson's constituents who have been
most active
in speaking about preparedness have been the
German-
Americans and other hyphenated Americans,
the profes-
sional pacifists, the flubdubs and the
mollycoddles, all of
whom have united in screaming against
preparedness and in
applauding him; just as their spiritual
ancestors applauded
Thomas Jefferson over a century ago when he
announced